

I CLAIM:

1. A rolling pig pipeline cleaning apparatus for propelling a plurality of individual pigs in a sequential fashion through a pipeline wherein, the apparatus comprises:

a cylindrical pig catching chamber having a pig pushing ram axially aligned with a first end of the pig catching chamber and a high pressure chamber axially aligned with a second end of the pig catching chamber wherein, at least a portion of the pig pushing ram is dimensioned to extend through the pig catching chamber to transport a pig from the pig catching chamber into the high pressure chamber

a pig conveyor unit including opposed pairs of support columns having a plurality of support arms that support at least one rearwardly angled upper pair of guide rails and one forwardly angled lower pair of guide rails wherein, each of said pairs of guide rails forms a rolling pathway for a plurality of individual pigs

first means for sequentially introducing an individual pig into said pig catching chamber; and,

second means for introducing high pressure gas into said high pressure chamber.

2. The apparatus as in claim 1; wherein, said lower pair of forwardly angled guide rails has a lower end which terminates adjacent to said pig catching chamber.

3. The apparatus as in claim 2; wherein, said first means comprises an indexing cylinder arrangement that feeds one individual pig at a time into the pig catching chamber.

4. The apparatus as in claim 4; wherein, said second means comprises at least in part a pressure generating cylinder operatively associated with said high pressure chamber and an actuator associated with the pressure generating cylinder for releasing high pressure gas into said high pressure chamber.

5. The apparatus as in claim 4; wherein, said second means further comprises a valve disposed intermediate the pressure generating cylinder and the high pressure chamber.
6. The apparatus as in claim 1; wherein, the extension and retraction of the pig pushing ram is governed by a pair of spaced limit switches.
7. The apparatus as in claim 4; wherein, the extension and retraction of the pig pushing ram is governed by a pair of spaced limit switches.
8. The apparatus as in claim 1; wherein, said high pressure chamber is provided with at least one purge sensor.
9. The apparatus as in claim 5; wherein, said high pressure chamber is provided with at least one purge sensor.
10. The apparatus as in claim 6; wherein, said high pressure chamber is provided with at least one purge sensor.
11. The apparatus as in claim 7; wherein, said high pressure chamber is provided with at least one purge sensor.